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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 4, 2009.

I hereby appoint the Honorable SHEILA JACKSON-LEE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Chaplain Cherita Potter, National Chaplain, American Legion Auxiliary, Seaside, Oregon, offered the following prayer:

Dear Lord, we thank You for this day and the opportunities it presents to us.

Fill us with a renewed spirit, never to waver when the way is hard. Prepare each of us with open hearts and broadened minds to face the many challenges set before us.

Direct our thoughts and emotions so that we may exhibit fair judgment and the practice of good core values.

May the principles of justice, freedom, democracy, and loyalty be ever preserved for a happy and secure America.

Open our eyes to the needs of others. Make us sensitive to the issues of poverty, racial, sexual, and age discrimination, war and peace, pollution and our environment.

Help us to recognize and grasp the opportunities for service, that each one of us might make a difference.

God, we thank You for this great Nation and the service men and women who defend and protect our freedoms. Help us to know how to best honor and support them. Fill them with strength and courage to endure.

May Your blessings be with those suffering from the ravages of war and our duty to them be ever on our minds.

We are comforted by Your presence as we pray for a peaceful Nation.
In Your Name we pray, amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. POE of Texas led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING CHAPLAIN CHERITA POTTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WU) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

(Mr. WU asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I'd like to first welcome my father, K.C. Wu, to the House gallery.

It is also my distinct pleasure and honor to welcome our guest chaplain for today, Ms. Cherita Potter.

Ms. Potter is the national chaplain for the American Legion Auxiliary and one of my constituents in Oregon. She is also an active member of Community Presbyterian Church in Cannon Beach, Oregon, where she participates in Vacation Bible School, choir and Bible study.

Ms. Potter has served in a number of leadership roles at both the State and national levels of the American Legion Auxiliary, and I would like to thank her personally for her ongoing service to our Nation's veterans.

She is joined today by her husband, Toby, a retired Navy Seabee.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Potter for her service to our country.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from references to persons in the gallery.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. After consultation among the Speaker and the majority and minority leaders, and with their consent, the Chair announces that, when the two Houses meet in joint meeting to hear an address by the Right Honorable Gordon Brown, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those immediately to her left and right will be open.

No one will be allowed on the floor of the House who does not have the privilege of the floor of the House. Due to the large attendance that is anticipated, the rule regarding the privilege of the floor must be strictly enforced. Children of Members will not be permitted on the floor. The cooperation of all Members is requested.

The practice of reserving seats prior to the joint meeting by placard will not be allowed. Members may reserve their seats by physical presence only following the security sweep of the Chamber.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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